

# The Word Wizard's Book of **SYNONYMS** and **ANTONYMS**

over



chuckle

under



laugh





# The Word Wizard's Book of **SYNONYMS** and **ANTONYMS**

Robin Johnson

  
Crabtree  
Publishing  
Company

[www.crabtreebooks.com](http://www.crabtreebooks.com)





# Magic words

Words are magical things! They give you wings to fly. They let you soar high and low. Words help you catch giant dragons. They let you rescue little princes. Words make you jump for joy. You bounce up and down on the bed. Then you crawl under the covers for a bedtime story.



## Synonyms and antonyms

There are all kinds of magic words! Some words are **synonyms**. Synonyms mean the same thing as other words. Some words are **antonyms**. Antonyms have opposite meanings to other words. We use words to share our ideas. We also use them to ask and answer questions. The Word Wizards use words to make magic! They need your help to learn some new magic words.



Words give you wings!





# Synonyms are the same



Synonyms are words that mean the same thing or nearly the same thing as other words. The words "tasty," "yummy," and "delicious" are synonyms. They all describe something that tastes good. They have the same **definition**. A definition is the meaning of a word.



*This girl sees something good to eat!*

## Adjectives and verbs

Some synonyms are **adjectives**. Adjectives describe words called **nouns**. Nouns name people, animals, places, things, or ideas. The synonyms "happy" and "glad" are adjectives. We can use them to describe people.

Some synonyms are **verbs**. Verbs are action words. They tell what people or things are doing. The synonyms "smile" and "grin" are verbs. They describe what happy people do.



*This girl has a huge sandwich and a big grin!*



*How do you think this boy feels? Use synonyms to describe him.*



# How are synonyms helpful?

Synonyms help us tell stories. They let us use different words. Different words make our stories interesting. Without synonyms, books would be boring! We would fall asleep reading them. We would snooze. We would nap. We would doze. We would snore.



*This boy fell asleep while reading. His book did not have any synonyms.*

## Word Wizard in training

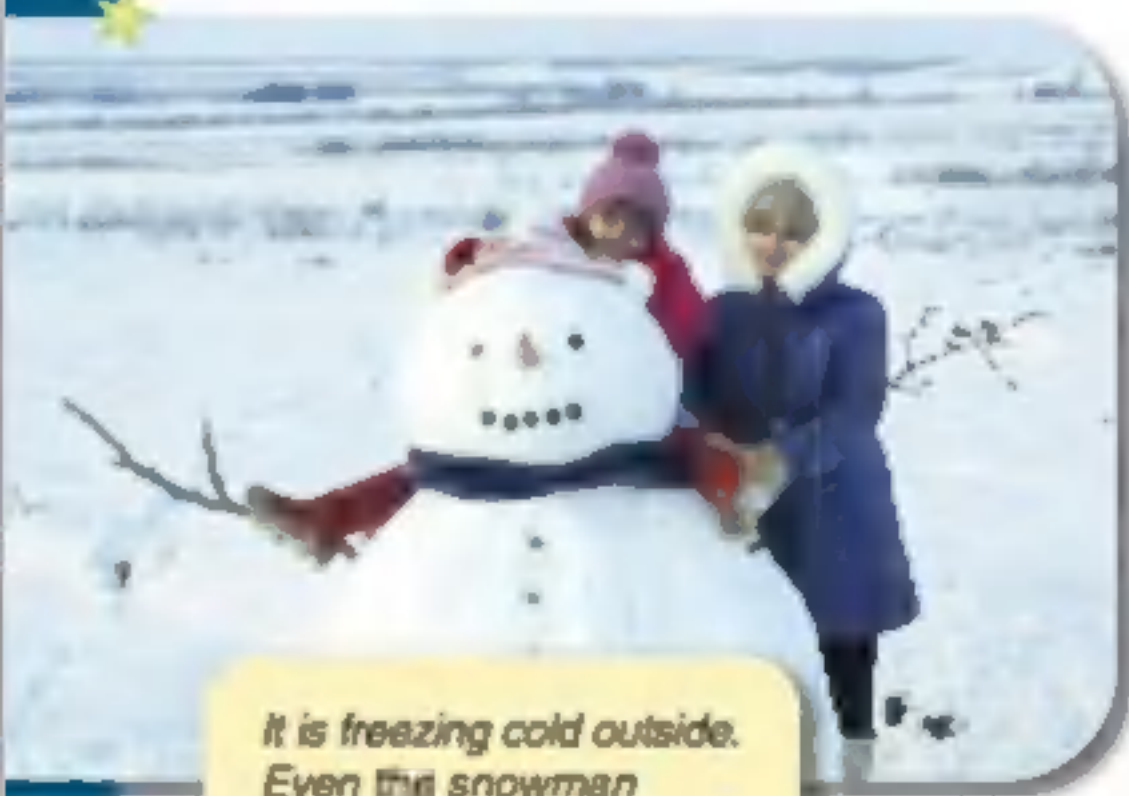
Synonyms let you choose different words. The more words you know, the more choices you have. Look at the word web below. It shows synonyms for the word "pretty." Can you help the Word Wizard read them? Some of the synonyms are pretty big! But you are pretty smart. You are pretty clever. You can do it!





# Almost the same

Some words have **similar** meanings. Similar means they are alike. They are not exactly the same, though. There are small differences in their meanings. The adjectives "chilly" and "freezing" both mean "cold." The word "chilly" means it is cool. The word "freezing" means it is really cold. You better bundle up!



*It is freezing cold outside. Even the snowman needs a scarf!*

*This boy looks really cool!*



## Shades of meaning

Small differences in words are called **shades of meaning**. Some words have weaker meanings. They have less power or force than other words. Other words have stronger meanings. They are more powerful words. We can choose weak or strong words to tell our stories.

strong



weak

hurl  
fling  
pitch  
throw  
toss

*This girl is ready for the beach! Will she toss, throw, or hurl the ball? Will she build a tall or towering sandcastle?*





# What do you mean?

Shades of meaning let you say exactly what you mean. They let you choose the best words for your stories. They help you paint pictures with words. These girls painted pictures with brushes! Use colorful words to describe them.



## Word Wizard in training

Help the Word Wizard finish these sentences. Sentences are complete thoughts or ideas. Point to a word to fill in each blank. Choose words you think tell the story best. Look at the pictures for clues.



This girl baked some cookies.  
Now the kitchen is \_\_\_\_\_!  
dusty dirty filthy



This wizard made some  
cookies, too! He \_\_\_\_\_ his  
magic wand to make them.  
moved waved shook



# A thesaurus is not a dinosaur!

Have you ever seen a thesaurus? It sounds like a dinosaur, but it is not! A thesaurus is a book. It lists words and their synonyms. It helps you choose words for your stories. You can find thesauruses at the library. You can also find them on computers.



*This boy needs a synonym for his story. A thesaurus will help him!*



*A dictionary is a book, too. It gives you definitions of words.*

## Word Wizard in training

Help the Word Wizard use a thesaurus!  
He is writing a story about dinosaurs.  
He needs a synonym for "big." Look at the  
thesaurus page below. Read all the words that  
mean "big." Some are as big as dinosaurs!  
Then choose a word for the Word Wizard  
to use. It is a big decision!



**Big**  
adjective

enormous  
giant  
gigantic  
huge  
humongous  
immense  
large  
massive  
vast





# Antonyms are opposites

Most thesauruses also list antonyms. Antonyms are two words that mean the **opposite** or nearly the opposite of each other. Opposite means completely different. The adjectives "good" and "bad" are antonyms. The verbs "push" and "pull" are antonyms, too.



*Are these girls pushing or pulling the toy? Are they being good or bad?*

# Word Wizard

in training

Help the Word Wizard match the antonyms below. Use your finger to join the words. Are they adjectives or verbs? Remember that adjectives tell us more about things. Verbs are action words.



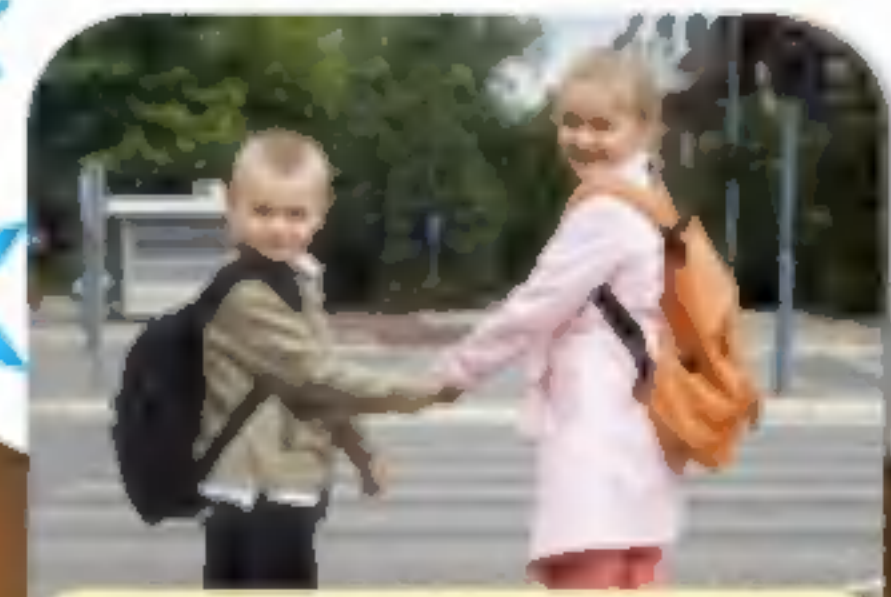
old	white
give	sell
black	young
sit	cold
hot	stand
buy	take





# How are antonyms helpful?

Antonyms let us **contrast** words. Contrast means to **compare** two things to show how they are different. We stop at red lights. We go at green lights. "Stop" is the antonym of "go." A car is fast. A turtle is slow. "Fast" is the antonym of "slow." Antonyms help us tell how things are different.



*These kids are waiting for a green light. Then they can cross the street safely.*



*A turtle is slow when it walks. It is fast when it rides a skateboard!*

## Word Wizard in training

Help the Word Wizard finish these sentences. Tell him antonyms that could fill in the blanks. Choose words that contrast the red words. Look at the pictures for clues.



One boy looks **happy**, but the other looks \_\_\_\_\_.



One dog is **huge**, but the other is \_\_\_\_\_.





# Different and the same



Synonyms and antonyms are different. Synonyms give you word choices. Antonyms let you contrast words. Synonyms and antonyms are also the same in some ways. They both make your **vocabulary** bigger. Your vocabulary is all the words you know. Now you can add the word "vocabulary" to your vocabulary!

*Synonyms and antonyms help your vocabulary grow!*

## Show and tell

Synonyms and antonyms also help you **communicate**. To communicate means to share ideas and information. We communicate in many ways. We ask and answer questions in class. We show our toys. We tell our stories. How else do we communicate?



*This girl is pleased with her picture. She is proud to show it to the class.*

*This boy uses sign language to communicate. He is signing the antonyms "up" and "down."*



*Sometimes we whisper when we communicate. Other times we scream!*



# Make word magic

Now it is time to make your own thesaurus! Get some paper, a pencil, and some markers. Use the pencil to write down an adjective. "Good" and "small" are adjectives you could use. Or think of your own. Now choose a verb. The words "walk" and "talk" are verbs. What other verbs do you know?

## Add synonyms and antonyms

Write down some synonyms for each word. Then list some antonyms. Use the markers to add pictures if you like. You can use your thesaurus to write a story. You can make magic with words. You can be a Word Wizard!



*These big kids are telling a giant story!*